

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2008

Ravalli County Commissioners

--	--	--	--	--

July 2, 2008

FC 363-3

Memorandum

TO: County Commissioners

FROM: Dan McGowan, DES Administrator

SUBJECT: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

I wanted to share some thoughts about one of the programs you may be eligible for and explain how you can apply for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

First a little background so you can understand where we are today. When the President declared the four counties of Carter, Fallon, Powder River and Custer a disaster area as a result of the severe winter storm of May 1-2, 2008, two Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant programs became available. The first of these programs is the Public Assistance Program. It is a program designed to help repair and restore disaster damages to the four affected counties. The second FEMA program is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. It is intended to provide the state with funding to conduct mitigation projects, which will lessen the damage caused by future disasters. Examples of projects are elevation, acquisition or relocation of structures from flood hazard prone areas, structural hazard controls such as detention/retention basins, seismic retrofitting, or wild land fire fuels reduction to name a few.

The eligible applicants for the HMGP are local and Tribal governments with a FEMA approved Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Plan, all of which must be either unmapped or in good standing in the National Flood Insurance Program. The money provided by FEMA is on a 75% Federal and 25% Local match. The HMGP involves a competitive application process and may be very time consuming, as the projects must undergo National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scrutiny.

The normal process involves a series of statewide applicant briefings. However, due to the minimal funding available, probably less than \$220,000 for the entire state, on site briefings may be limited to Carter, Fallon, Powder River and Custer County, which was most devastated. If you feel your jurisdiction may have an eligible project, please fill out the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI) and return to our mitigation office by the 4th of August. If it appears you have an eligible project and one that possibly can be funded, we will schedule you for an applicants briefing and at that time you will be provided the HMGP application. Your point of contact at this office is Kent Atwood at 406-841-3960. Kent is sending a similar letter to this to your DES Coordinator's Office.

Dan W. McGowan

Enclosure



**STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
DIVISION**

P.O. BOX 4789

FORT HARRISON, MONTANA 59636-4789

Commercial (406) 841-3960 Facsimile (406) 841-3965



HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)

NOTICE OF INTENT

NAME/ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

DATE:

TYPE OF APPLICANT: *(Government, Private Non-profit, Indian Tribe)*

PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT: *(Include address & phone numbers)*

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF NATURAL HAZARD TO BE MITIGATED:

LOCATION OF PROJECT:

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST: \$ _____

DOES YOUR LOCAL JURISDICTION HAVE AN APPROVED PDM PLAN?

YES _____ NO _____ Date of FEMA approval: _____

HAS A FEDERAL DISASTER "DAMAGE SURVEY REPORT" (DSR) OR PROJECT WORKSHEET (PW) BEEN WRITTEN FOR ANY PORTION OF THIS PROJECT?

YES _____ DSR# _____ NO _____

LIST EXPECTED SOURCES OF LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS OR "IN-KIND" SERVICES AND OR MATERIALS: (Normally 25%) (*List Non-federal sources -- grants, taxes, bonds, existing budgets, volunteer and in-kind labor, cash, donations, etc.)*)

ISSUES TO CONSIDER WHILE CHOOSING YOUR PROJECT:

1. List Alternatives Considered to this Project and Ramifications (Very important - that the alternative # 1 be explained as to what will happen if we take no action and #2 be a project you have actually considered and would do if time and money were available, usually the money is the biggest discriminator.

a. Alternative #1: No Action _____ --

b. Alternative #2: _____

2. Project Minimum Qualifications:

- a. Project must provide beneficial impact upon the disaster area;
- b. Project must conform with environmental regulations;
- c. Project must solve a repetitive **natural hazard** problem; and
- d. Project must demonstrate cost-effectiveness (the value of benefits must exceed the cost: Benefit Cost ratio must be 1.0 or greater).

Signature and Title of Preparer:

(Signature and Title)

Date:

Your POC is Kent Atwood at 406-841-3960 or katwood@mt.gov